

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A method of grouping entries in a directory server, said directory server ~~configured to contain~~ comprising roles, the method comprising: ~~the steps of:~~
defining a plurality of entries in the directory server, wherein at least one the plurality of entries are associated with an enumerated role;
~~creating~~ defining an enumerated role ~~entry corresponding to the enumerated role, wherein~~
the enumerated role entry comprises a plurality of group member attributes and the at least one of the plurality of entries is associated with at least one of the plurality of group member attributes ~~by assigning a plurality of entries to the enumerated role,~~
~~whereby the plurality of entries possesses the enumerated role;~~
~~determining what~~ which of the plurality of entries possess the enumerated role ~~by~~
querying the plurality of group member attributes in the enumerated role entry; and
providing the plurality of entries that possess the enumerated role to a client,
wherein the at least one of the plurality of entries comprising the enumerated role is within a scope of the enumerated role entry.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Currently Amended) The method as in claim 1, further comprising: ~~the step of~~
~~if an entry that possesses the enumerated role in a nested role, then rejecting the at least one of the plurality of entries that possess the enumerated role if the at least one of the plurality of entries possesses a nested role that entry without further processing of the entry.~~
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Currently Amended) ~~An apparatus~~ A directory server, comprising:
a plurality of entries in the directory server, wherein at least one the plurality of entries comprises an enumerated role;

~~a first component creating~~ an enumerated role entry corresponding to the enumerated role, wherein the enumerated role entry comprises a plurality of group member attributes and the at least one of the plurality of entries is associated with at least one of the plurality of group member attributes by assigning a plurality of entries to the enumerated role, whereby the plurality of entries possesses the enumerated role;
functionality to determine the first component determining what which of the plurality of entries possess the enumerated role by querying the plurality of group member attributes in the enumerated role entry; and
functionality to provide the first component providing the plurality of entries that possess the enumerated role to a client second component,
wherein the at least one of the plurality of entries comprising the enumerated role is within a scope of the enumerated role entry.

7. (Cancelled)
8. (Currently Amended) The ~~apparatus~~ directory server as in claim 6, further comprising functionality to the step of
~~a third component coupled to the directory server configured to reject the at least one of the plurality of entries that possess the enumerated role if the at least one of the plurality of entries possesses a nested role. an entry without further processing if the entry that possesses the enumerated role in a nested role.~~
9. (Cancelled)
10. (Cancelled)
11. (New) The method as in claim 1, wherein the directory server support Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP).
12. (New) The directory server as in claim 6, wherein the directory server support Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP).